



STATE OF LOUISIANA
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA



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John Ducrest, CPA
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PRESS RELEASE—FIRST NBC BANK OPENS IN NEW ORLEANS

Effective today, Friday, May 19, 2006, "First NBC Bank" located at 210 Baronne Street, New Orleans, Orleans Parish, Louisiana, opened for business. "First NBC Bank" successfully raised \$35,805,000 in capital from mostly local residents. Ashton J. Ryan, Jr., will serve as President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board, Christopher J. Fagot as Cashier, Louis Ballero as Chief Lending Officer, and William J. Burnell as Chief Credit Officer of the new commercial bank.

Commissioner John Ducrest stated that this is the second new commercial bank to open in Louisiana this year and the first to open in New Orleans since 1991. He also indicated that the bank intends to play an integral role in the post-Katrina reconstruction and rebuilding of the greater New Orleans area. The bank's significant capital commitment should enable management to focus on commercial and residential lending to support the revitalization of New Orleans and the surrounding communities.

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